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THE DECLINE AND FALL OF COOKERY.

The Common Cause

OF HUMANITY.

The Organ of the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies.

LAW-ABIDING.] ***Societies and Branches in the Union 561.*** [NON-PARTY.

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IMPORTANT NOTICE.—Owing to war-time conditions it is now impossible to have as much matter set up on Wednesdays as we have hitherto been able to do. We therefore beg that articles and letters should be sent in not later than Tuesday morning, first post.

Notes and News.

The Parliament Bill.

As it is now known that this Bill attempts no alteration in the basis of the franchise, the anxiety of Suffragists with regard to it is, for the time being, at an end. Anxiety, however, can never be quite put aside until Woman Suffrage is an accomplished fact, and it is easy to see that this Bill, while it gives an extension of time, does nothing to settle the difficult problems that must be faced before the next General Election. When those problems come up for settlement, as they inevitably must, the question of Woman Suffrage will come up with them. We believe that the Government knows, almost as well as we do, that there can be no acceptable adjustment of the qualifications of voters, or the distribution of seats, or any other electoral matter, which does not recognise and provide for the equal claims of women. If they do not know this we shall tell them.

Helping the Nation in Time of Need.

A correspondent asks whether the time has not now come for Suffragists to resume their active work for Suffrage "to impress themselves—other than in war work—upon the country." We do not know what she has in view, but, in our opinion, while the political truce holds good, those who seek to break it to promote any single cause do not act wisely, and do not promote the object at which they aim.

The N.U. is using its energies to help the nation in its time of need, and we do not know how any body of women, whose demand for the vote comes from their desire to serve their country, could fail to respond when their country needed their help so greatly.

We all know how many and how varied are the forms of "war work" undertaken by constitutional Suffragists in the last sixteen months, and how valiantly they have toiled at them. We wish to include every piece of useful work done for the State in the term "war work," whether it be practical relief work, or the upholding of our claim to share fully in the service that the State now needs from its citizens. We believe that by sensible and thorough "war work" of this kind Suffragists have won for themselves the position we have always known them to deserve. We have proved ourselves worthy of citizenship, and when the time does come we shall claim the right that we have not for a moment abandoned.

Women's Wages.

The Women's Co-operative Guild is urging the following proposals upon the Co-operative movement:—

1. Fully experienced women to be taken on at the men's rates.

2. Partially trained women to be taken on at the women's rate and to be advanced to the men's rate in one to nine months, according to the extent of their previous training.

3. Untrained women to be taken on at the women's rate, and to be advanced to the men's rate at the end of a year by quarterly increments.

These proposals, which raise questions which concern all trades, are of course suggested in the interests of both men and women. It is, as we have so often said, folly, and folly of the most short-sighted kind, to allow women to undercut men in any branch of labour, and we hope that this obvious fact will be increasingly believed and acted upon.

Food and Foxes.

The Board of Agriculture has appealed to the hunts to reduce their foxes and to protect the food supply of Great Britain. But we learn that the Board proposes to put this matter into the hands of the County War Agricultural Committees, or Sub-Committees, which, as everybody knows, are dominated by the fox-hunting interest. Almost as well appoint the fox to protect the hen roosts! The results of the course deserve to be more widely known. There are a few examples given in a letter to *The Manchester Guardian*.

A man in the West county, who began keeping poultry in response to the appeal of the Board of Agriculture, has had to give up the farm. The foxes took toll of his birds, and the hunt, far from paying compensation for his loss, actually turned out more cubs on land close by!

A lady in another county rented a house and land for a poultry farm. Foxes killed the whole of her stock as well as that of a neighbour. One small farmer lost forty birds in a fortnight, the fox tearing up netting and boards. No compensation is being paid during the war!

As the district sub-committees are not likely to assist in this matter, it is not unreasonable to ask for legislation. If cubs were interned this spring and old foxes killed off, the poultry industry, it is pointed out, would produce from £20,000,000 to £30,000,000 *more* annually. And we certainly need it.

War Time Employment for Educated Women.

In an article on "Posts for Educated Women," a correspondent of *The Times* gives an emphatic warning to those who are tempted to regard the posts they are now obtaining as "a splendid opening." "An opening," says the writer, "it may be assumed, must lead somewhere, and it is difficult to see where most of the posts which are being filled so eagerly to-day by girls fresh from school and college will lead." The payment, too, is generally unsatisfactory, as well as the prospects. "There are very few posts open to women at a salary of more than £2 a week, and the great majority are under 30s."

In the matter of salaries Government offices are setting a

very bad example. "There are two or three good posts—notably that recently made for Miss Durham at the Board of Trade—but hundreds of highly-educated women are being employed in the various departments at less than 30s. a week. Quite recently a Government Office asked for women clerks for a particular piece of work at a salary of 21s., and an applicant was told that 'women with a mathematical degree were preferred.' In another office an expert typist and secretary is receiving 27s. after ten years' work. It must be remembered that it is practically impossible for gentlewomen to live in London, however humbly and uncomfortably, for less than 30s. a week, and this, of course, allows nothing for dress and pocket money, and takes no count of the fact that prices are rising week by week."

"Using Razors to Cut Blocks."

"The most unsatisfactory point about the employment of women under the present conditions," continues the writer, "is that there seems to be no discrimination shown as to the type or class of girl employed, nor any attempt made to select specially suitable women for any particular work, or to throw open really good posts to efficient women. Girls from high schools, county secondary schools, commercial and secretarial training colleges, polytechnics, and the universities are all taken together and given the same kind of work at the same salary. If this work can be sufficiently well done by a secondary school girl of seventeen, it is obviously not worth while for a university woman of twenty-two to take it.

"Girls are being urged to take up these posts—picturesquely called 'war work'—from motives of patriotism, but we are always being told it is unpatriotic to be wasteful, and what could be more wasteful than to put on one side years of careful training and preparation and take up work which can apparently be done equally well by an untrained, half-educated girl?"

It is wasteful "to use razors to cut blocks," as the Scottish proverb says, especially when there is abundance of work for a well-forged and tempered blade.

Who was Found Wanting?

Then there is the reverse side of the same problem. That the equality is only "apparent" cannot be doubted; and the educated woman may well hesitate to take an underpaid clerical post. "If, however, she refuses," points out *The Times* correspondent, "such posts will be eagerly taken up by girls of a lower class, to whom a pound a week is the height of ambition. These girls will, no doubt, do the routine work required quite well, but if by any chance they are put on to work demanding trained intelligence they must fail, and the result will be that the authorities will solemnly pronounce that women are a complete failure in any post requiring initiative or administrative power, but that they fulfil their duties as junior clerks and typists admirably. And all the higher posts will remain closed to women."

Unfair Competition of the Well-to-Do.

There is another danger, that women who are obliged to earn their living should be thrown out of employment by well-to-do girls who take up war work from praiseworthy motives of patriotism, and think it a matter of trifling importance whether they earn one guinea or two. These should be careful not to undersell their labour, and should also make sure before accepting a post that there are no competent applicants who really need to earn. An efficient woman accustomed to regular work is far more likely to be able to fill a man's place successfully, even at a task entirely new to her, than a girl who has had no practical experience at all.

The Great Central Railway and Women Employees.

The question asked in the House by Mr. Jowett, of the President of the Board of Trade, calls public attention a second time to the high-handed action of the Great Central Railway with regard to women clerks engaged by them since the war, to take the places of men who have gone to the front. Between seven and eight hundred women clerks are now employed by the company, a large proportion of them working in the chief offices at Marylebone and Manchester. To all appearance, their work has been satisfactory. A report which appeared in *The Times* of November 20th contained the statement that a Marylebone official "declared that the women were working splendidly, and that some had been taken from the ordinary routine and given some more important and better-paid work involving considerable initiative. 'Some of them,' he said, 'are aspiring to the Traffic Manager's and General Manager's chairs, and we are quite willing that this should be so; *there need be no limit to the posts they may fill in the future if they show aptitude.*'" It now appears, however, that they will be expected to fill the posts at competitive salaries. They are to do a man's work, but shall not receive a man's pay.

Intimidation.

Some of the clerks appear to have been subjected to what can only be called "unwarrantable interference," on account of their membership of the Railway Clerks' Association. They were first warned that the consequences of joining the Association "would be very serious," and that they were "endangering their positions." The women clerks felt that such advice was very improper, and declined to act upon it. They were then punished by removal to lower-grade work, at a reduced scale of pay, the removal being made ostentatiously, in as public a manner as possible, so as to impress the lesson on other workers. In each case, the work of the woman clerk was completely satisfactory. The degradation was a punishment for presuming to join the Railway Clerks' Association.

Effect of the Great Central Railway Company's Action on Recruiting.

In consequence of this treatment of women substitutes, many male clerks, it is stated, are withholding their attestation under Lord Derby's Recruiting Scheme. They feel, quite naturally, that if the women clerks who take their places are treated thus unfairly, they (the men) cannot relinquish their work with any confidence, although they are guaranteed reinstatement on their return. Their whole position may be jeopardised during their absence. No reply has been received, so far, from the General Manager in reply to remonstrances on the interference with the freedom of persons employed in offices under his control. And the reprehensible attitude of the other officials is being, meantime, maintained and even extended.

Why Not Women Jurors?

Complaints are being made in the Law Courts of the shortage of men for jury service, and on one occasion a judge appealed to the jury to serve on the next case, owing to the difficulty of getting sufficient men. Why should not this duty be undertaken by women? In Norway, by a law passed in 1897, women sit together with men on ordinary civil cases, and for many years past women have served on juries in the States of Wyoming, Washington, Idaho, Oregon, California, and Illinois, with very good results. Judge Kingman, of Wyoming, considers that they "follow a trial with more attention than men; they are less influenced by business connections, or extraneous considerations, and possess more delicate scruples with regard to their responsibility."

Week-Enders in War Time!

The writer of the charming verses on page 470 writes to us to explain that a "Weekender" (her pseudonym) does not mean one who spends her "week-ends" in the country, but "one who works in a munition factory from 1 p.m. on Saturdays to 7 a.m. on Sunday, the only time in the week (in works where the twelve hours' shifts are run) that the regular girl workers have "off." "My verses," says our correspondent, "are a small tribute from one who has seen something of the life the girls lead and the work they do." "Your objection to my pseudonym reminds me," she adds, "of a story told among us of a very precise and proper lady, who, on being told 'to go over there to the benches and rag with the foreman,' murmured that she had no idea we should have such lively week-ends! (To rag means to scrape roughness from brass edges)."

Chemistry as a Career for Women.

In connection with the very interesting article on p. 473, on the prospects open to women trained in chemistry, it is worth while to note the number of advertisements now appearing, in trade and other journals, of posts open to women chemists, or vacancies for women. Munitions factories are prepared to take large numbers of women analysts; the aniline dye works under Government control also require women chemists. Public analysts and private firms are advertising for assistant analysts, men or women. This commercial work, as distinct from the occupations of dispenser or druggist's assistant, opens out prospects of wider interest and a higher salary. We need not point out that the value of scientific knowledge is beginning to be recognised in industry.

Women in Industry.

Women and Girls in Industry. By Miss A. M. Anderson, contained in Chapter IV. of the Annual Report of the Chief Inspector of Factories for 1914. (Wyman's. 1s. 2d.)

Women in Modern Industry. By B. L. Hutchins, with a Chapter on Women's Wages, by J. J. Mallon. (Bell. 2s. 6d.)

Married Women's Work. Edited by Clementina Black. (Bell. 2s. 6d.)

"There can be little doubt," says Miss Hutchins, "judging from existing means of information, that if the whole of the industry of the country were run on shorter hours, higher wages, and greatly improved hygienic conditions, it would be very much more productive than it is." Miss A. M. Anderson's report shows that employers are beginning to realise this. Many still lag behind, and complaints of bad conditions are lamentably frequent, but Miss Anderson notes a distinct advance during the last twenty-five years in the way of "clearing up misunderstandings, and softening relationships between employers and employed." "Before the war came," she says, "the Inspectors knew of a greatly increased and extending desire on the part of manufacturers to improve the conditions of factory life beyond the statutory requirements, but even that hardly prepared them for the sudden blossoming out in August and September of innumerable cases where the foremost thought was to 'stand by' the weakest of their workers and share alike in profit and loss."

An improvement is also noted by Miss Hutchins, who considers that "the woman worker of to-day has a much more civilised industrial environment than her mother or her grandmother," the appointment of women inspectors counting for a great deal in getting the needs of the women worker known and considered. With regard to length of hours she is less satisfied, these, she states, having been but little shortened since 1874, while the strain has increased through "speeding up." But she admits that in many industries a shorter day has become customary, whether through Trade Union pressure or a recognition on the employers' part that long hours "do not pay."

This recognition on the part of employers has been reported by several of Miss Anderson's staff, their testimony on the whole going to show that the main resistance to excessive overtime in the great normal industries comes more from the employer's side than any other, although there have been marked exceptions to this rule. The Factory Department has had a difficult piece of work in regulating "the admittedly necessary relaxations of the law relating to hours so as to secure the best possible output of supplies for His Majesty's Forces, while preventing undue overstrain of women and young workers." Many cases have occurred of exceptionally long hours worked without any legal sanction whatever, but these cases have been "steadily brought under better control, and the more steadily because of the knowledge of intelligent manufacturers that unlimited hours cannot be worked without detriment to output in the long run by encroaching on workers' reserve energies." Signs of overstrain among women are, however, mentioned in many of the inspectors' reports, and every effort is being made to bring home to "all in responsibility" the importance of organising the work and adapting available supplies of workers and machinery "so that *unnecessary* risk shall not be run of injuring the future life and health of the race." Facilities for wholesome refreshment have played an important part in protecting the workers' health.

With regard to night-work, recommendations that girls should be under the charge of a competent woman have generally been readily accepted by employers, and arrangements made for them to get a wholesome meal in the course of the night shift; but cases have come to light in which "a few girls (without overtime pay) have been locked in at night with men workers, no responsible person in charge, with no means of heating food beyond a small oil lamp, and no lighted sanitary convenience." Some of the cases that come before Munitions Courts show the need for women assessors, and a greater number of women are also necessary as overseers.

Joy of Working for the Soldiers Increases Output.

Speaking of the splendid spirit shown by the girls, Miss Anderson comments on the new resistance to fatigue that has shown itself in industrial women, in a way comparable with the spirit of their men at the front. One of the Senior Lady Inspectors, Miss Squire, reports that "this spirit has accomplished what the mere prospect of increased wages has failed to do; it is a truism among managers that girls, even on piecework, cannot be induced to exceed a pace which enables them to earn what they consider a normally sufficient wage, but during the last few months the motive 'our soldiers need it' has made them work at top speed." Another inspector, Miss Hancock, says: "It is only by visiting the factories that one can realise the extent to which the equipment and comfort of the troops in the field depend upon the work of the women and girls at home, and the amount of overtime worked has, I believe, only been possible without injurious effects because the workers have been so glad to help. In one factory I heard them singing for joy because . . . they had started on a Government order."

This spirit among working girls is confirmed on all sides. A writer in *The Daily News* of December 2nd tells how women in engineers' shops have, after a few weeks' training, exceeded the output of experienced men. "It was anticipated that in one shop there would be a drop of 500 articles per week when the change was made from male to female labour, instead of which there was an increase of 500 articles the very first week, and this increase has been progressive. . . . In one case I came across, two women, each working only three hours' overtime per week, are doing a certain job, necessary to keep a shop supplied with material, which it formerly took four men, working in night and day shifts, to accomplish."

The discoveries that are being made about industrial women are, continues the writer, interesting enough at the moment; but they will be more than interesting—they will be intensely and tremendously important—when the time comes, after the war, for the readjustment of the social structure.

What of the Future?

With regard to women's work after the war, Miss Anderson considers that the "changes that will endure are those already begun in movements or tendencies before the war." Mr. J. J. Mallon, in a chapter contributed to Miss Hutchins's book, seems to think the war will have more far-reaching effects. The scarcity of men, he points out, "may improve the position of women, and lead to their being entrusted with posts, not necessarily identical with those of men, but more responsible and more dignified than those women have usually filled. Objections of a merely conventional nature are likely to disappear. It seems also possible that the present shifting of women's employment out of the luxury trades that ebb and flow according to fashion and idle caprice into Government service and trades vitally necessary to national existence may remain."

Miss Hutchins, though her book as a whole gives a far from cheering picture of women's work, holds that "the factory system is doing a great deal for women, directly by widening the field of occupation open to them, and indirectly by heightening the value of special aptitudes, some of which are peculiar to women." She considers that with proper organisation we should not see women taking men's work at less than men's wages; "we should see both men and women doing the work to which their special aptitudes are most appropriate, each paid for their special skill."

Organising Men and Women Together.

There are, however, many difficulties and prejudices to overcome before this ideal can be accomplished. There is always a danger that the entrance of women into a new trade will lower the standard of wages, and Miss Hutchins is of the opinion that it is only by organising women together with men in strong Trade Unions that this danger can be averted. Her chapters on "Women and Trade Unionism" are very illuminating. She dwells on the special difficulties of organising women—the lowness of their wages, their lack of interest in improving conditions which they regard as merely temporary, to be ended by marriage, and the low status of the woman worker, accustomed from time immemorial to do work that no one else wanted to do for a mere pittance. This inferior status, Miss Hutchins shows in her very interesting historical sketch, dates back to the time when the whole family worked at a trade in their own home and the wages went to the father—days before it had been decided by an Act of Parliament that the earnings of a married woman are her own property.

Perhaps the least satisfactory feature of the position of

modern women in industry is the lowness of the average rate of wages earned. Some women are earning quite high wages at war work, but others are still being paid at a rate, "low to a degree which suggests a serious social problem."

The wage census taken in 1906 shows that in a number of trades the average weekly earnings of women *working full time* varied from 10s. to 15s., while even in the cotton trade, "which stands out conspicuously as showing a relatively high level of earnings," the average for full time was only 18s. 8d. Mr. Mallon considers, however, that there is a tendency in an upward direction, and reminds us that Mr. G. H. Wood, F.S.S., who has made the movement of wages his special study, estimates that women's wages have risen relatively more than men's. Here, again, the remedy is organisation. "Women," says Miss Hutchins, "must not only organise, but must take a conscious part in the work of directing their organisation. At present they are too often the shuttlecock between the opposing interests of the employer and the men's Union."

Should Wives Work?

Miss Hutchins does not discuss in detail the thorny question of married women's work, as a book on this subject, edited by Miss Clementina Black, was in preparation at the time she wrote. She puts forward as an ideal a system which shall not penalise marriage by requiring women to leave work against their will when they marry, and shall not, on the other hand, force home-loving women of domestic tastes "to leave their children and painfully earn their bread outside their home."

With this view Miss Clementina Black agrees. "Married Women's Work" is a report of a careful investigation undertaken by the Women's Industrial Council into the industrial work of wives and widows. A large number of individual cases are recorded, each of which has been personally visited by one of the Society's investigators, and in this way a picture is given of life as it is led in thousands of working-class homes. From these investigations Miss Black concludes that bad as conditions are in the home when mothers are compelled to go out to work, they are worse still in the homes of women who do not earn, although the family income is inadequate. The number of men earning £1 a week or less is, she points out, very large, and so long as this remains the case any restriction of married women's work can but add to the difficulties of the poor.

As regards the effect of married women's work on infant mortality, Miss Black considers that no generally decisive answer can be given. "But while it is not proved that work for money on the part of mothers is *per se* bad for children, it does appear to be proved that the effects of some occupations (those, for example, in which there is fear of lead poisoning) are adverse to the bearing of healthy children."

Passing on to the married women of the more prosperous working class, Miss Black declares her conviction that the mental and moral effect of wage-earning upon those who work to supplement their husband's earnings is usually good, provided that the work is suitable and well paid. Women who work when they are not obliged to do so from actual poverty are, as a rule, highly skilled and well remunerated. "Many of them pay for domestic help; the great majority buy educational advantages for their children. . . . Such women are nearly always conspicuously competent . . . almost invariably their homes are well kept, and the family accommodation adequate. To visit them is to go away encouraged as to the future of the race, and greatly shaken in a prior opinion as to the undesirability of wage-earning for wives."

Married women who are not specially skilled do not, as a rule, Miss Black considers, work for money if their husbands earn good wages. The main cause of married women's working for money is poverty, and it is to poverty rather than to the work which it necessitates that the unsatisfactory conditions found in so many industrial women's homes are to be attributed. "The underpaid wives of underpaid men bear upon their shoulders a burden of combined household and industrial toil far too heavy for any human creature."

A Spirit of Hope for the Future.

Miss Black's conclusions, like those of Miss Hutchins, make one agree with the latter when she says "sometimes one feels that one dare not contemplate too closely the life of our working women, it is such a grave reproach." Yet all three writers breathe a spirit of hope for the future. Progress is slow, but it is steady, and a better understanding between men and women, and between employers and employed, seems already showing itself as a result of the war.

M. M.

News from our Overseas Dominions.

PROGRESS OF THE WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE MOVEMENT IN CANADA.

Miss Macmillan, who has lately returned from Canada, reports that great progress has recently been made there, not only in propaganda for Women's Suffrage, undertaken by Societies, but also towards definite Government action. It may be, she suggests, that Manitoba and Alberta have so much intercourse with the neighbouring States of America in which women are already enfranchised that they have been won over by seeing Women's Suffrage in practice. Or it may be that the war has brought home to the Western Canadian the importance of women's contribution to the work and thought of the community. In Manitoba, a Government Women's Suffrage Bill has been drafted, while a similar Bill is being drawn up in Alberta, and Suffragists confidently believe that women will win equal political rights in these two Provinces within the next three months. There are also good hopes that the Suffrage may soon be won in Saskatchewan also.

Married Women in Municipal Affairs.

A little while ago a referendum was taken in many Canadian cities on the question of whether marriage should continue to disqualify women for the municipal suffrage, which in certain Provinces is exercised only by single women. This campaign, started on the initiative of Dr. Gordon, President of the Canadian Women's Suffrage Association, proved a great success, a number of towns, including Toronto, giving a majority in favour of extending the municipal suffrage to married women. No action has, however, been taken so far in the Legislature.

Dominion Franchise will Follow.

Another correspondent, Mrs. Lang, Organising Secretary of the N.E.F.U., points out that the Dominion Franchise will automatically follow the Provincial vote for the women of Manitoba and Alberta, as in any Province all those people vote for the Dominion Parliament who are qualified to vote for their own Provincial Parliament.

"Another item of interest to Canadian Suffragists," she writes, "has been the passing by the Canadian National Council of Women (one of the most active Auxiliaries of the International Council of Women), which met at Toronto, of a resolution instructing the National Council to approach all the Provincial Governments with the request that they extend the franchise to women. That Suffrage for Women is gaining in favour all over Canada was constantly demonstrated through the National Council meetings, and the National Equal Franchise Union officers made good use of the time in coming into touch with Suffrage workers all over the Dominions, the vastness of which makes propaganda work so difficult among our scattered population."

WOMEN'S FRANCHISE IN SOUTH AFRICA.

A General Election has been the occasion to bring once again before the people and candidates for Parliament a reminder that a Woman Suffrage question remains to be dealt with in South Africa. Questions to parties and to individual candidates have elicited the information that the movement is becoming far more widely recognised. Of the four South African political parties, the Labour Party alone puts Suffrage as a foremost plank in the party platform. The South African Party, *i.e.*, the new Government, consider the question "as still an open one," although the leader of the party, General Botha, has expressed himself in favour. The Unionists and Nationalists, *as parties*, give no pledge whatever. The defeat of the Labour Party deprives the movement of pledged supporters in the House; on the other hand, many individual members of the Unionist Party, lately successful at the polls, have expressed themselves enthusiastically in favour of, and in sympathy with, Woman Suffrage; and, to a less degree, individual members of the Nationalist and South African Parties are so pledged.

A municipal election followed hard on the Parliamentary: the women for the first time have the municipal vote; and November 10th proved to the world how South African women value their responsibility and their privilege. The associated societies now number twenty-seven, and the Association, despite the great distances which render inter-communication difficult and slow, may be said to be making steady headway. The official organ of the Association, *The Woman's Outlook*, is in the capable hands of Miss Macintosh, and serves to supply the required link between the Executive and the Societies and the Societies themselves. Copies may be obtained from Mrs. Thomson, Box 70, Uitenhage, Cape Province.

NEWS FROM ABROAD.

THE IMPORTANCE OF THE FRANCHISE MOTION IN HOLLAND.

"To-day (November 1st) the Government has introduced a measure for revising the Constitution, and the following is an extract from Article 89:—"Right to vote for the Second Chamber shall belong to male inhabitants, Dutch subjects, or those recognised by law as such, who have reached the age prescribed (not less than twenty-three), and female inhabitants with the same qualifications, provided the law will give them the vote without any regard to their economic position.

"This is a real step forward for the women, as they are no longer disqualified (and the Constitution even encourages the law to give women the vote)."—FROM *Rösträt för Kvinnor.*

The women have carried on their own propaganda without help from any political party, and in 1894 a Suffrage Society for women was formed, which at present has a membership of 18,000. During the years 1900-1908 a Committee, consisting of political parties, trades unions, and other associations, was working for universal suffrage. This meant a revision of the Constitution. The Committee was dissolved in 1908, and since then the agitation has been in the hands of the Socialist-Democratic Party, together with the trades unions.

THE STORY OF A WAR ECONOMY LEAGUE ORGANISED BY GIRLS AT SCHOOL.

A little while ago a rumour reached THE COMMON CAUSE that a National Economy League had been started by the pupils of a very large day-school consisting of some 300 girls of different ages. In reply to a letter, a correspondent gives us some details which we think will interest our readers.

The girls started the scheme entirely by themselves. They took it up seriously, called a meeting of all their members into council, carefully considered their advice, and the result was the set of rules given below, with the members' pledge, all copied out very carefully upon a loose sheet from an exercise-book.

THE WAR ECONOMY LEAGUE.

We, the undersigned, hereby undertake to keep the following rules, during the period of the war, and thus help our country to win the victory.

Then follow the Rules:—

1. Not to spend more than 2d. a week on sweets.
2. Not to visit any place of amusement more often than once in a fortnight.
3. *To be as careful as possible with school books, stationery, bags and cases.*
4. To use the tramcar as little as possible.
5. To buy no new clothes, boots or shoes unless absolutely necessary; but whenever possible to have boots and shoes mended.
6. *To be careful in the use of coal, gas, and electric light.*
7. To give as much help as possible at home.

Perhaps it may be thought at first that here is nothing very novel about this quietly made effort, originating among the girls themselves, and unknown for a time to the mistresses. "Self-denial" weeks, and Lenten abstinences are part of the practice and discipline of many English homes. But the remarkable feature of this little self-denying ordinance is that its drafters had in mind, not their own self-discipline, but the public good. Rule 3, the Stationery Monitress reports, "has made a real difference in the amount of stationery given out"; and Rule 6, with its injunction to spare coal and gas and electric light, implies a grasp of the principles underlying *national* economy as apart from thrift, which aims only at easing the burden of hard times.

There are two other clauses which probably bulk very large in the imaginations of the drafters, represent to them a big sacrifice, viz., the self-denying ordinance limiting expenditure on sweets to twopence every week, and cutting down visits to picture palaces to once in a fortnight. These seem curious signs of the times. Even twenty years ago, a girl's pocket money was often only threepence a week, until she began to pay for her gloves and shoes; and to "spend money upon sweets," was discountenanced even by girls themselves. The necessity for being amused, as apart from amusing ourselves, is also a new "want" for youth. The genius of childhood and girlhood for "entertaining" is so ready at call, that it is a part of modern education to encourage and direct it. Possibly a real national service might be rendered by teachers, in doing all in their power to help children and older students to be more independent of professional efforts to "amuse," and to find, in the famous words of the immortal Mrs. Elton, "resources in themselves."

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A Glance at Some Magazines.

In an article on "Working-Women and Drink," in the December issue of *The Nineteenth Century*, Mrs. Anna Martin quotes some extraordinarily interesting vital statistics for 1912, comparing the male and female death-rate after the age of fifteen. "Each decade shows an increasingly higher male death-rate, till, between the ages of sixty-five and seventy-five the death-rate for men is 63·9, as compared with 51·7 for women. The higher mortality of men is sometimes explained," says the writer, "by attributing it to their greater exposure to accident." In 1913, however, the total return of violent deaths was 4,863, all but a small minority of the victims being men; while on the other hand 3,271 women lost their lives in the same year through the effects of child-bearing, without counting the large mortality indirectly due to the strain of maternity. It may be safely assumed that the numbers of deaths from accident, and from disease incident to maternity, cancel each other, if they do not leave a balance in favour of the male sex. How is it then that their rates of mortality, after boyhood, are so much higher? "Seeing that the wife, in the poorer half of the community, is worse fed, clothed, and shod, incomparably worse doctored, and frequently works for longer hours, is it not an astonishing fact that women, on the whole, contrive to live longer? . . . It seems reasonable to connect the greater longevity of women with their greater sobriety." Mrs. Martin gives weighty reasons for believing (1) that the charge of widespread intemperance can only be sustained if a totally different standard of "drinking" be adopted from that by which men are judged. (2) That sober men seldom have drunken partners; and (3) that the prevalent belief that alcoholism is increasing among women rests on small foundation. Mrs. Martin has some just observations to make on the fallacy underlying the belief that "the nation can be safeguarded from the natural consequences of its present drink policy by compelling *women* to be sober by Act of Parliament, while the men drink as they wish. The direct effect of the *father's* drinking habits is shown in the inability of the daughter to suckle her infants. Professor Bunge of Basle, found that 91·5 per cent. of the daughters of sober men were able to nurse their infants, 31·4 per cent. of the daughters of moderate drinkers, and only 10 per cent. of the daughters of confirmed inebriates!"

The women of the nation, however sober and pure their lives, cannot safeguard the national heritage of their children's lives and health, so long as alcoholism in men is slurred over as a subject too thorny for politicians to touch. In the same number Sir Clement Kinloch-Cooke makes a survey of the replacement of men by women in industry since the war, without, however, attempting to state or solve any of the problems arising out of the position of "Women in Industry."

Two articles of considerable interest appear in this week's *New Statesman*, both touching upon the vexed question of women's wages, and the attitude of the trade unions towards the employment of women—and pointing out that "for trade unions to try to act by keeping women out of the trades is not only unfair to women but in the conditions which result from the war will be doomed to failure."

The Woman Worker. (The National Labour Press, 74, Swinton Street, London, W.C., monthly 1d.)

On January 1st, 1916, *The Woman Worker*, a new Labour paper for women, will appear under the editorship of Miss Mary MacArthur and Miss Susan Lawrence.

Much has been written about women in industry. The only voice which has been unheard is that of the working woman. In this paper the worker will speak for herself. Its aim will be to show what the women are really thinking, their hopes, their struggles, and their amusements; and to express how the great national changes affect them in the intimate practical details of their daily lives.

The first number will contain articles on "Munition Workers," by Mary MacArthur, "How to Save the Babies," by Margaret Bondfield, and "Rent and the Workers," by Susan Lawrence. Besides being a paper for women Trades Unionists, it will be a paper for the tired girl, with poetry, fiction, prize competitions, a page for the home, and illustrations.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

Scotland Yard—Its Men and Methods. By George Dilnot. (Percival Marshall. 1s. net.) Contains a full account of the workings of Scotland Yard, the training of policemen, and the methods of detectives, of which there are two women.

His Lady's Response. By E. M. Akers-Douglas. (St. Catherine Press. 1s. net.) Letters written to a wounded soldier in France.

Two Stories for Children. By Julia M. Grier. Published in aid of the Ambulance and Sand Bags Fund. (St. Catherine Press. 6d. net.)

The Empire Birthday Book. (Humphrey Milford, Oxford University Press. 1s. net.) Records some of the chief events in history, with an appropriate quotation for each day.

Christian Chivalry. The Racial Aspect of Women's Enfranchisement. By J. Beanland. (Obtainable from Professor F. Merrick, 12, Parsonage Road, Withington, Manchester. 1½d., post free.)

THE PIONEER PLAYERS.

"Mouse," by Edward Knoblauch, at the Royalty Theatre, December 5th.

The Play: From the lyrical rhapsodies of a Claudel, or the diggings and delvings of an Evreinoff, a "problem" play by Mr. Knoblauch is a far cry, and the mental attitude of the audience on Sunday evening was frankly one of "For this relief, much thanks." The "Mouse" is housekeeper, secretary, guide, philosopher and friend to a middle-aged Scotch historian and his young daughter. The historian having successfully completed an erudite work, goes off to relax at Monte Carlo (where, by the way, he must have felt like a fish out of water). Here he meets and falls in love with the "Mouse's" niece, who is a minx. The rub comes when "Mouse" discovers, through a misdelivered letter, that her niece, having got herself into an ugly scrape with a young married man, is only marrying the historian, because she must marry someone immediately or lose her good name. All appeals to the minx's better nature proving of no avail (a more hardened, selfish, worldly, immoral, albeit charming young person it would be hard to find), "Mouse" is faced with the unpleasant necessity of divulging the truth herself to the would-be bridegroom, which she does so nicely as to disarm a suspicion that, perhaps, in spite of her saintliness, she is something of a cat.

The Acting: Miss Lilian Braithwaite, in the title rôle, was eminently satisfactory so long as she had nothing to do, but in the scenes where she had to take the stage and try to act, she became merely artificial and superficially imitative. Her tears, her rosary of shining virtues, her ethical difficulties and conscientious scruples somehow left us cold and sceptical. This was not altogether Miss Braithwaite's fault—some of her speeches were unspeakable. And it ill becomes us to carp when the play provides us with so much excellent acting.

Miss Mercia Cameron is new to us, but she treads the boards with no little assurance and authority as one of the younger generation knocking vigorously at the door. Her rendering of the slangy, gawky, impulsive, warm-hearted, lovable school-girl was wholly delightful and sincere.

Miss Iris Hoey acted the Minx in the most convincing way, and the male parts were also very well played.

ANNIE IN THE SHELL SHOP.

"In one factory I heard them singing for joy because . . . they had started on a Government order."—H.M. Factory Inspector.

Father's in the hospital,
There's accidents a heap,
Doctor says he'll save one eye,
And three at school to keep!
Food and coal and clothing
Are dear as they can be,
But Annie's in the Shell Shop
Where father used to be.
Chorus.—Seven days day-shift,
Six days night;
Twelve hours' darkness,
Twelve hours' light.
Far away across the sea half the world's at stake;
Working all the weary day for England's sake.

Tommy's in the trenches
Giving someone beans;
Jack is on the North Sea,
Hunting submarines.
Mother gets rheumatics bad,
She can't stay on her feet;
But Annie in the Shell Shop
Keeps the children neat.

Working from before the light
Till after day is done,
Annie in the winter-time
Hardly sees the sun;
But though among the roaring wheels
Not a note is heard;
Annie in the Shell Shop
Sings like any bird.

"More and more munitions,"
So the soldiers plead,
Annies in their thousands
Are making good the need.
Some say we'll be beaten?
I know it isn't true;
Annie of the Shell Shop
Is going to see us through.
Chorus.—Seven days day-shift,
Six days night;
Twelve hours' darkness,
= Twelve hours' light.
Somewhere out across the sea half the world's at stake.
Working all the sleeping night for England's sake.

Week-Ender.

Correspondence.

ECONOMY OF LABOUR.

MADAM,—I have read the two articles about "The House that Does its Own Work" with much interest and, I must confess, with a certain amount of disappointment, because, although one flitted round the house with the motorist sharing her childish glee, on reflection it is difficult to find a single problem that has been solved, or any substantial improvement on methods that are already well-known.

The way of living would not appeal to ordinary mortals who are compelled to live in or near big towns. (By the way, fixed washing basins in bedrooms are generally a big mistake.) I have had a fairly big experience of electric lighting, cooking and heating, besides the odds and ends such as irons, foot-warmers, &c. The installation costs more than most other systems, but with skilful handling electric lighting is the cheapest where the price is not above, say, 5d. a unit—to say nothing of its labour-saving and healthiness. It is not so easy to speak definitely about heating and cooking. You say £40 or £50 a-year for current is cheap because of the saving in servants, and I agree with you in the case of a house that required two or more, and one is dispensed with; but most people who employed a "general" would not do the work themselves, however efficient the mechanical aids, and very few could afford the extra £20 or so a year for the sake of the added comfort. I do not think electric power will come into general use in small houses while current costs more than ½d. a unit, unless unlooked-for improvements are made in the appliances, or until every house has its own windmill on the roof.

You ask about the cost of building. There need be practically no difference. I have had one or two cases where flues and fireplaces have been omitted, and the cost of wiring and radiators has shown a slight saving. In any case, I generally prefer to have an independent coke boiler for the hot water, as it is such a convenient way of getting rid of rubbish, and by far the cheapest form of supply.

S. B. K. CAULFIELD.

MADAM,—As you asked in last week's COMMON CAUSE for suggestions of labour-saving appliances, I venture to send you notes of certain arrangements I have found useful, though I am sorry to say they are not electrical—for, though we have electric light, we made the mistake when building this house of not having a sufficiently powerful dynamo to do anything beyond just making the light itself.

I have insisted on three things in building—no avoidable ledges, no blackleading, and no metals that wanted cleaning. We have black (iron) door-plates and handles and stair-rods, and the taps throughout are of white vitreous enamel; the window-sills all of quarries, so that plants, &c., can be put down on them with impunity. I have no mantelpieces and no ornaments; rugs, linoleum, and hair-cord carpets (the latter is very easy to clean), single curtains everywhere, no blinds, and everything washable. There are no bars to grates anywhere except in the kitchen range (a horrible thing which few of us have as yet the courage to do without, in the teeth of shocked opposition from builders, architects, and the general public). The fires are simply made on the hearth, which is sloped slightly from front to back; there are no gratings for them, and everyone told us they would never do, but we get splendid fires with no trouble.

I have an Everybody's Vacuum Cleaner (through THE COMMON CAUSE advertisement), and an O-Cedar mop; both very useful.

I have the Exeter cans made by the Blind Asylum at Exeter, and find them the greatest comfort, as I have to get up very early. The water keeps piping hot all night—provided it is *put in* really hot—indeed, if it is put in at 8 p.m. it is piping hot at 7 a.m. next morning. These cans are of galvanised iron, lidded and with handles, and fit into wicker cases thickly padded and lined with red flannel, and you can get them in all sizes.

I have no servants, but a woman comes in to help and cook; I do a great deal myself, and, personally, I find the secret of getting through my day's work easily is to prepare everything well overnight and get straight and tidy, so as not to leave an accumulation of odd jobs to clean up in the morning—and to get up really early. This is not such a very small house—three sitting-rooms, hall, six bedrooms, three attics, bath-room, kitchen, scullery, &c., and three staircases, so there is plenty to do; but I can generally get through with my housework by eleven, and sometimes earlier.

I am afraid this is all very elementary, but I thought possibly some of your readers might not know of the Exeter cans nor of the iron door-handles and vitreous enamel taps, all of which things, though details, I do find save labour very much.

PHILLIS E. DOWSON.

PARLIAMENT AND REGISTRATION BILL.

MADAM,—It is refreshing to hear that the N.U. is alive once more to the necessity of the work for which, I believe, it was founded. I read with pleasure the warning letter issued by the Union to the Press and to all Members of Parliament. Excellent though it is to notify the Government, is this not a time to show a bolder front? Women are menaced—heavily menaced—by prospective legislation, not least by the Parliament and Registration Bill. Surely the time has come for Constitutional Suffragists to impress themselves—other than in war work—upon the country. Why should the N.U. not join, as a society, the suggested Demonstration to be held at the Albert Hall early in the New Year? The narrowness and prejudice of both Militants and Constitutionalists, as to their respective methods, is much to be deplored. Should this prevent the N.U. doing its utmost to show the Government and the world the united strength of Suffragists and that they are all one at heart in the "vision splendid" and in the enfranchisement of women?

VIOLET CAUSTON.

[*We do not know what bolder front is called for in regard to the Parliament and Registration Bill. It is now public property that the Bill will not attempt to alter the basis of he franchise, and in view of this it can no longer be held to be a menace to women.*—ED. C.C.]

SOUP AND SANDWICHES.

MADAM,—We have been learning lately from our war economy lecturer that the meat used for making soup, however slowly it is cooked, still contains almost all its nourishment, though it has lost all its flavour. May I give other workers the benefit of a discovery which they may not have made for themselves? Many of us prepare soup in the morning, and leave it to cook itself in the hay-box until we return at night. The bit of meat, leg of beef if possible, which has done its duty in the cooker, will make potted beef, which simply cannot be bettered, if it is put twice through a mincing machine, and pounded with some seasoning. In this way it is possible to prepare two meals at once—the luncheon sandwiches or the breakfast dish, and the hot soup, a delightful addition to the evening meal, when one has been

OUT ALL DAY.

WOMEN AND MUNITIONS COURTS.

We have received a copy of the following letter, which has been sent to Mr. Lloyd George by the Conservative and Unionist Women's Franchise Association:—

"Sir,—At the Annual Meeting of the Kensington Branch of the C.U.W.F. Association the following resolution, proposed from the chair by the Countess of Selborne, and seconded by Miss Chadwick, was carried unanimously:—

Resolution—

'That it is very necessary when women are brought before Munition Courts that Women Assessors should be present to assist the judge.'

"My Committee ask me to bring this resolution to your notice.

"I have the honour to remain, your obedient Servant,

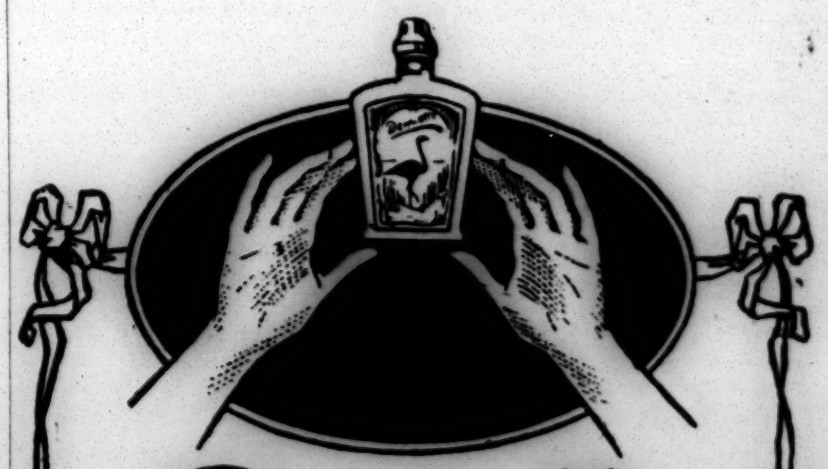
"L. JESSIE ALLEN, *Hon. Secretary.*"

ON SALE AT THE SHOP.

There are now on sale at the N.U. Shop, 50, Parliament Street, London, S.W., a large number of useful articles over from the London Society sale, which are now to be had at very low prices. They include always a large stock of comforts for soldiers and of useful children's clothes. Friends are warmly invited to call and buy practical Christmas presents.

The proceeds of the sale will be used for the Women's Service Work of the London Society, and a proportion will be given to the N.U. Central Fund.

The sale will be open every day, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., from now till the beginning of the Christmas holidays; but it is likely that the best things will quickly be sold out, so intending purchasers are urged to come soon.



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The N.U.W.S.S. is an association of over 52,000 men and women who have banded themselves together, under the leadership of Mrs. Henry Fawcett, for the purpose of obtaining the Parliamentary vote for women on the same terms as it is or may be granted to men. At this great national crisis, however, they have for the time suspended their ordinary political activities, in order to put themselves and their Union at the service of those who are organising the relief of distress caused by the war.

The Decline and Fall of British Cookery.

Beside me, as I write, is a little shelf—full of brown books, some bound in worn calf, others in dingy cloth piously covered by ancient wrappings of brown paper. One or two are in manuscript, written in a fine clear hand, but both page and ink are now so yellow with age that they are hard to decipher. They are the household books of women who lived a century ago. The recipes all belong to the period when luncheon was unknown; when men went forth to their day's work after the copious English breakfast which took its place, and returned to dine at three or four o'clock. Soon after dinner came tea, as we know from Jane Austen's novels and Cowper's Letters; and after tea, towards nine o'clock, in came the supper-tray, or perhaps mulled wine; and soon afterwards our ancestresses went off to bed, with a decent regard for colza oil and candlelight. I know all this, because the last previous owner of the collection mentioned above, kept up the customs of Jane Austen's day well into the 'eighties, little grand-nieces and nephews being allowed the indulgence of a roasted apple, or biscuits and milk at noon, in the long interval between eight o'clock breakfast and three o'clock dinner.

But my relative was forty years behind the fashion. When Queen Victoria married a German husband, customs were changed. The heavy German *mittagessen*, being introduced at Court to accommodate the Prince Consort; not two, but three stout meals per diem became a part of English life. The British dinner, quite naturally, was thrust back later and later to eight and even nine o'clock. Supper trays vanished altogether. Tea disappeared until a certain Duchess secretly introduced it into a Highland castle to beguile the long afternoon hours for a party of ladies. This nameless birth (it was afterwards christened "a kettledrum") is recorded in Fanny Kemble's diary as the first instance of afternoon tea in Great Britain.

No cookery book in my possession marks the transition period from the Georgian to the Victorian era. The nearest approach to a bridge across the gulf is the really masterly work of Miss Eliza Acton, that kitchen classic, and a later edition of the Code Napoléon of cookery by Mrs. Beeton. This book, the compilation of the eminent lady, is, like the Code itself, a digest of the fruits of other people's labours, and contains a good number of older recipes without modification. On the whole, however, Mrs. Beeton faithfully reflects the Victorian era and habits. There was in those days a marvellous supply of eggs. Quarts of cream are lightly indicated, perhaps because railway carriage and boracic acid had not yet enabled country-folk to turn their wealth into cash. For us it is particularly noteworthy that the "family" for whom the cookery is intended, are by nature landowners. The diet destined for them is British food at its very best. And lastly, it is intended for the use of large families.

The great joint of meat, roasted before an open fire, is meant with its appurtenances, for a big household. There must have been from six to ten children, their father and mother, and the servants who waited upon them. The older cookery books (like the early editions of Mrs. Beeton, their successor) knew no such headings as "Odds and Ends," nor "Appetising Dishes made from Scraps." There were no scraps. The boot-and-knife boy or the gardener's lad thankfully received a heaped plateful of the last of the meat, vegetables, and pudding, and was built up thereby into stout manhood. The soup, made in large quantities,

was largely distributed to "poor families." As there was no cold mutton, nobody's wits were strained to know what to do with it. Those were piping times of peace, of fresh vegetables, succulent meat, and abundant gravy. "British cookery is unapproachable in its own kind," said a great-hearted French chef.

Somewhere about 1880, as nearly as I can detect, the Change began. In the late 'seventies little books stole out of the Press with titles that were enough to rouse the suspicions of sociologists—but they, like their science, were still in their infancy. "Tasty Trifles," "French Cookery for British Villadom," and the like. Ten years later there is no blinking it. The day of scraps and cold meat has dawned in the British larder. For the British joint still produced by the butcher (who has learnt nothing and forgotten nothing for a century) became a source of real embarrassment in an epoch of small families. How should two children, with the appropriate number of parents and attendants, cope with the Victorian joint? A demand sprang up for small and ever smaller mutton. It was the era of the Rissole and the Kromeskie. Some Anglo-Indian tempter whispered "Currie." By this time we are *en plein débâcle*. The age of the great cookery books is past.

Things went from bad to worse. The Beeton cuisine had (obviously) become extravagant. "Take eight eggs"—forsooth!—"to make a good plain cake." Eight eggs at a farthing apiece in 1865 are now eight a shilling at the very least. So the recipes were ruthlessly cut down. "Take only half the eggs, and use milk for cream" . . . on such lines as these neither British cookery nor Mrs. Beeton gets fair play! No wonder that the victims, men especially, turn to France, to Italy—anywhere to get off what it is perhaps pardonable to call "the Beeton track."

"The pen refuses to dwell upon the odious theme" of substitutes for honest food, which sophisticate the palate into believing that the body is about to be nourished, by blackguard imitations of diet. It is to be hoped that Food Reformers will deal with them. But one thing at least might be altered. I cling to the hope that the butcher may yet adapt himself to the neeeds of the day. Is it too much to ask of him to look abroad?

Here is a letter just received from The Hague. "Living is much dearer here, except milk, cheese, and butter. And I have never had such good meat in my life. It is expensive, for the *very* best meat costs 1s. 8d. per pound. But there is not an atom of waste. You cut it slice after slice, like a loaf, till the end. The butchers here cut up meat altogether differently from the English way. It is much more economical in use." Of course it is. Why do we feel obliged to roast big joints in order to puzzle out afterwards how to use up the cold mutton? The butcher sends it, and we humbly take what we are sent, waste freely, and then study "Odds and Ends."

Professional Chemistry for Women.

Extending our Enterprise.

We have seen in the articles on "Why We Must All Save" the importance of cutting down our imports, retaining our gold reserve, living, as far as possible, on our own production, increasing that production, and reducing our scale of living. The writer suggested that it was hardly possible to increase our exports; but, so far as the means available allow, we should certainly endeavour to foster our overseas trade in order to develop a set-off to our expenditure on imports. To do this effectively, we have to aim at extending our enterprise in the industries previously controlled by our enemies, whose supplies, thanks to the Navy, are largely cut off from the markets of the world. Under this category may be mentioned dyes, chemicals, drugs, certain forms of glass and chinaware, cheap metal goods, &c.

It will be found that the production of these commodities is, to a considerable extent, dependent on raw materials naturally found in abundance in Germany and Austria. Unless we can secure ready supplies of the same materials we must find economical substitutes for them, and devise new processes of manufacture which will enable us to withstand competition after the war. To suggest the development of old industries and the initiation of new ones when funds are low and the able-bodied men are engaged with the forces or in the manufacture of munitions, is to advance a problem which must tax the ingenuity of the most astute men of business. We must not forget, moreover, that neutral countries, unhampered by the depletion of their workers, are endeavouring to establish such manufactures. Thus, while they also take advantage of the situation, our position is rendered so much the more difficult. Nor are our enemies idle; they realise well enough the enormous set-back which they must endeavour to overcome, and will not be too particular in the means employed to overcome it. There can be no doubt that they are accumulating supplies, and will be ready to flood the markets at any price to regain their trade.

We Must All Take Our Part.

Obviously, the war on the enemies' trade must be carried on by those who remain; and all, men and women, must strive to take their part in this endeavour. Already the stoppage of supplies from enemy countries has forced it upon us to undertake the manufacture of a number of essentials, such as drugs, and certain forms of glassware, while the increased demands of our colonies and the neutrals have led to the extension of many factories, and considerable inroads have thereby been made into markets where our enemies had maintained good connections. For some time after the war sentiment will no doubt influence us and our overseas brethren to prefer home-made products; but we cannot expect lasting and widespread sentiment in all parts of the world if our quondam enemies are prepared to undersell us. Money will be dear, and sentiment alone will not be sufficient to withstand the trial. Our hopes are high, but all the far-reaching influences of the war cannot be foreseen. Indemnities will be demanded, and somebody will have to pay very heavily. Presuming, as we must, that our enemies have to do so, how can we expect our account to be settled if their trade is severely restricted? On the other hand, we must not pursue the old policy of drift; we have discovered many of our weaknesses, and must remedy them. We must become more self-supporting—less dependent on other nations for essential supplies. At any rate, we must no longer be dependent on Germany and Austria for the many things found wanting at the crucial moment. The war has heralded a new awakening both to men and women.

A Wide Field for Women.

The demand for workers must, without doubt, open a wide field for the further employment of women, not only to carry on now but afterwards to fill the spaces caused by the ravages of war. In many homes, where the daughters were able to look to their fathers and brothers to supply the wherewithal, the outlook will be changed; the mothers and daughters of all except the wealthy must prepare for the future. The daughters must be got into training to help the common cause, and to make their own way in the world in the many domains of work open to them in education, music, art, needlework, and in the shop and office, as well as in the factory, where, to a greater degree, quick eyes and deft hands are often more useful than physical strength. Already the number of women employed in industry, exclusive of clerical and commercial occupations, has increased since the war by over 150,000, and this figure will no doubt speedily advance as more men join the forces.

To those who are fit for higher education and have a real liking for science, the chemical laboratory will provide a suitable opening, and it is thought by some that the vacancies will be many through the displacement of alien chemists from our industries. It remains to be seen whether this is the case; but in any event it is doubtful whether manufacturers in this country are yet sufficiently alive to the advantage of scientific assistance to make full use of it. Yet the prosperity of our competitors abroad has been to a great extent dependent on science, and in our more prosperous industries we find chemists in increasing numbers employed in the work of testing raw material, by-products, and products, as well as in the control of operations and in the management and directorate. Often the introduction of a chemist has resulted in the saving of many times his salary within a few months of his appointment by the control of the quality of material in various stages, by the application of his science to the improvement of processes, reducing the cost of production, or increasing the output, or by turning to account some by-product hitherto regarded as waste.

Opportunities in Laboratory Work.

The supply of chemists prior to the war was ample, not only in respect of those employed in testing, but also of highly-qualified men for positions of control. It should be remembered, too, that a large number who were teachers in schools and colleges have entered the factories for munitions manufacture, and many of these will probably prefer to continue in industrial work; yet there should be opportunities for properly trained

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Chair: Mrs. H. M SWANWICK, M.A. Speakers: Mrs. BARTON, Miss MARGARET BONDFIELD, Mrs. PETHICK LAWRENCE, Miss CATHERINE MARSHALL, and Miss A. MAUDE ROYDEN.
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women to undertake laboratory work. The Institute of Chemistry, the representative body of professional chemists, was one of the earliest of the chartered professional organisations to admit women to the qualifying examinations, the first woman to take the examinations having been admitted to membership in 1892, and since that date ten women have qualified for A.I.C. and F.I.C. Many others, however, have taken University degrees in chemistry, and several have attained considerable recognition as teachers and research chemists. Salaries vary according to qualifications and ability and, in view of the expense of training are not very high, few being able to secure in ordinary times more than £120 to £150 per annum until they have acquired considerable practical experience. Owing to the varying degrees of competence and the variety of the work, it is difficult to apply the principle of "equal pay for equal work" in this case. Qualified women chemists would be ill-advised to offer their services for less than the figure indicated, for the reason that in simple testing work the supply of less trained chemists far exceeds the demand, and employers are usually wise enough to take into account the value at which a candidate assesses his or her services.

Need for Training and Enthusiasm.

There is no restriction with regard to the practice of the profession of analytical, consulting, and technological chemistry, as there is in the craft of pharmacy; but it is useless to encourage women to attempt to enter the profession as a career unless they are thoroughly trained and have an enthusiasm for scientific work. Even then they may have to be content, at least for a time, with routine testing, which becomes drudgery, and, unless they are distinctly capable, will not be entrusted with more interesting work of a higher order. There is no finality in the training of chemists. To be of any use they must keep up to date, at least in the branch of the science with which they are immediately concerned, and they can only hope to make progress by fully realising this. The main openings will be found (*a*) as assistants in works or to consultants in private practice; (*b*) as teachers and research workers in universities and technical colleges. For vacancies announced in the recent issues of chemical journals, applications from women have been more frequently invited. Such vacancies, however, have been usually caused by the temporary retirement of men who have joined the forces, and whom no one would hope to supplant on their return.

The war will be over, we hope, before any large supply of women is available for such work. It might be considered futile, therefore, that they should go through the requisite training with little or no prospect of utilising it. Yet the knowledge gained is such that it can be useful in many other spheres, while it is practically certain that the most efficient will be able, on their merits, to command a place in the ranks of scientific workers.

Vigilans.

EDITH CAVELL.

Brussels, October 12th, 1915.

Myriads have died for Britain—why should we
Give thee o'er them pre-eminence in song?
No trenches stormed, war-laurels won belong
Thy simple record. Yet men's eyes for thee
Grow dim, that day by day unflinchingly
Face war's worst horrors—just a woman strong,
Selfless and tender to assuage the wrong
Of man to brother man. What else was she?

Hand that ne'er failed to outstretched helpless hand,
Lips knowing not to lie, speaking the truth
Straight in Death's face—simple and calm and grand.
They shot her senseless; was't half-conscious ruth,
Spared her their guns' flash—sped her soul in sooth
In deathless triumph to the Happy Land?

Jeanie Morison.

SOME THOUGHTS FOR THE WEEK.

"Let us be back'd with God and with the seas,
Which He hath given us for impregnable.
And with their helps only defend ourselves;
In them and in ourselves our safety lies."

3 Henry VI. iv. 1.

"Yield not thy neck
To fortune's yoke, but let thy dauntless mind,
Still ride in triumph over all mischance."

3 Henry VI. iii. 3.

"'Tis pity . . .
That wishing well had not a body in 't
Which might be felt."

All's Well That Ends Well, i. 1.

SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS and mention THE COMMON CAUSE when ordering goods.

Notes from Headquarters.

The National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies.
President: MRS. HENRY FAWCETT, LL.D.

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We deeply regret to record the death of Mrs. W. Macintosh, the President of the Women's Enfranchisement Association of the Union of South Africa ever since it was founded, as an outcome of Mrs. Chapman Catt's visit to South Africa nearly five years ago. Since the war Mrs. Macintosh took a foremost part in organising relief and other social work at Port Elizabeth. Only a few months ago she was in the prime of her vigorous energetic life, and her death from cancer, after a few months' illness, is a great loss to the cause of Suffrage and of women's service for South Africa. We should like to express our sympathy with the Women's Enfranchisement Union in the loss they have sustained. Mrs. Macintosh's eldest daughter, Miss Mary Macintosh, is a graduate of Newnham College, Cambridge, and editor of *The Woman's Outlook*.

The Annual Council.

The Annual Council will be held on February 17th and 18th, 1916, at the Chelsea Town Hall.

F.W.S. Leaflet.

In the account of the work of the Women Patrols, which appears in the last number of the *Friends of Suffrage Leaflet*, it should have been stated that they owe their foundation to the action of the National Union of Women Workers. The N.U.W.W., realising the need for such an organisation in the early autumn of 1914, appointed a Patrol Committee to draw up the scheme and carry it into effect. The result of their great devotion and public spirit is to be seen in the excellent work done by the Patrols all over the country.

There are a certain number of Box Cottages at a shilling, and dolls outfits and Red Cross Boxes, at 7s. 6d. each, left over from last year, when they were made in the National Union Work-rooms for unemployed women. These may be obtained from Miss G. W. Evans, 14, Great Smith Street.

MATERNITY UNIT FOR THE RELIEF OF REFUGEES IN POLAND.

Miss Moberly, the administrator of the Unit, and Miss Thurstan, the general organiser, started on Tuesday for Petrograd, and we hope soon to hear from them under what patronage and where our Unit will work, and what will be the most urgent needs. Whatever these are, we may be sure that money and clothes will be required in large quantities. Several nice parcels of useful clothing have already reached us as the result of last week's appeal, and we hope for more. We have patterns we should be glad to send to working parties.

Miss Thurstan has promised to lend us some slides of refugees and of Poland, and we shall be glad to send speakers to address meetings if some can be arranged early in the New Year.

Just before the advance party started we received the following cable from Petrograd: "Most anxious know your decision about Maternity Unit for Petrograd. Help urgently needed. Ambassadress will welcome them. Please wire earliest possible date of arrival."

"THE COMMON CAUSE."

A few dozen copies of the Special Hospital Number have been returned, and can be obtained on the usual terms. As a record of the work of the Hospitals this number should find a ready sale at meetings in aid of Scottish Women's Units.

We have also a number of copies of our issue of December 3rd, which commemorates the anniversary of the hospital at Royaumont, and contains an illustrated article of Miss Lowndes on the new openings for women as Acetylene-Welders.

MORE ILLUSTRATIONS.

Our readers write to say that they would like more pictures—two or three every week. Photographs are often sent to us, and we reproduce them as often as we can, because now that women are taking up all kinds of new work we feel that a good photograph is worth whole paragraphs of description. But the expense of illustration is considerable. We have, however, had an offer from a kind friend of a sum with which to start a little fund for more pictures. Will our readers help us to raise a few pounds for this purpose?

THE LONDON SOCIETY.

SALE OF PLAIN NEEDLEWORK AT GROSVENOR HOUSE.

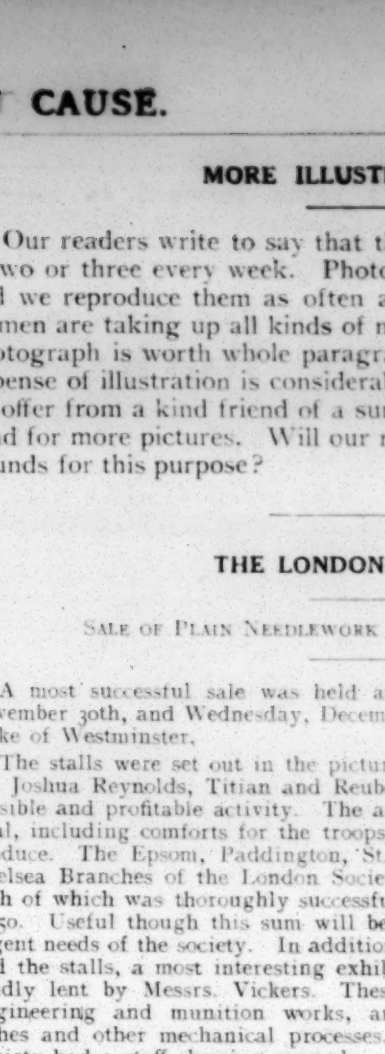
A most successful sale was held at Grosvenor House on Tuesday, November 30th, and Wednesday, December 1st, by kind permission of the Duke of Westminster.

The stalls were set out in the picture-gallery, and Gainsborough and Sir Joshua Reynolds, Titian and Reubens looked down upon a scene of sensible and profitable activity. The articles sold were useful and practical, including comforts for the troops, clothing of all kinds, game and produce. The Epsom, Paddington, St. George's, Hanover Square, and Chelsea Branches of the London Society took charge of separate stalls, each of which was thoroughly successful, and the total realised exceeded £350. Useful though this sum will be, it is not nearly enough for the urgent needs of the society. In addition to the attractions of the pictures and the stalls, a most interesting exhibition of cinematograph films was kindly lent by Messrs. Vickers. These showed Messrs. Vickers' great engineering and munition works, and showed women employed on lathes and other mechanical processes. In the outer room the London Society had a staff showing examples of the work actually turned out by women, with pictures of the London Society's workshops and welding classes, and much useful information was supplied on the subject of the openings for women in engineering work.

The arrangements for tea, which were excellently carried out, were in the hands of the Hampstead Branch. Mrs. Norman Grosvenor very kindly lent her house, and 240 people were entertained there.

The thanks of the London Society are due to all those who worked so hard to make the sale a success.

Garments and other useful articles left over from the sale can now be obtained at a reduced price from the Shop, 50, Parliament Street.



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Latest News from Serbia.

The Committee have to announce that they have not received any definite communications from their Units situated in Serbia this week. A report has appeared in the press that forty-seven members of the Scottish Women's Units were on their way through Montenegro—in fact, some papers announce that these members have arrived at Podgoritza. The Committee can give no definite confirmation of this statement, but from information received indirectly from Salonika they are inclined to think that it may be true. It is needless to say that all possible arrangements for the comfort of this party, should they arrive in Montenegro, have already been made.

SOME OF OUR PATIENTS AT ROYAUMONT.

The Dixon-Marshall Bed.

The present occupant of the Dixon-Marshall Bed (Elsie Inglis Ward) is Louis Jean Ray, aged thirty-two, a soldier in the 326th Infantry. He was admitted to the hospital on the 30th of last month (October) and is not, strictly speaking, one of our wounded men; he was sent back from the trenches as unfit for further service on account of rheumatism, internal troubles, and bronchitis. All the same he bears the marks of his battles about him; this is not the first time he has left the trenches for a hospital. He was wounded on April 25th, in proof whereof he has a finger missing from his right hand and a scar on his right arm. These injuries, he tells me, would have exempted him from further service; but on his recovery he returned to the army in the capacity of volunteer and remained with his regiment in Northern France till ill-health sent him to the rear.

I imagine that soldiering is a life rather to his taste; there is, if I am not mistaken, a dash of the adventurer about him. As a young man he served with a Colonial corps in Madagascar and Indo-China, and evidently enjoyed the experience; while in ordinary life, as a journalist, he is correspondent of a Paris paper in Tunis, Morocco, and Algiers. (He and I waxed friendly on discovering we were two of a trade.) He is married, but has not seen his wife since the war broke out last year; she was at Lille when he was called to the colours, and Lille is still behind the German lines.

He has employed part of his leisure since he came here in writing an article descriptive of Royaumont, which has been sent to a French paper. He talks well, cheerily, and fluently, and evidently dislikes to be idle; he sits up in bed making parti-coloured mats and quaint little baskets of beadwork which he frequently presents to the staff.

The Lamp of Lothian Bed.

The Lamp of Lothian Bed is occupied by a young gardener called Joseph Reymond, who came from the South near Lyons. He has been up at the front since August, 1915, and this is his first wound, though he assures me that on one occasion a bullet went through his moustache.

He belongs to the 158th Infantry, and was up at Souchy, near Arras, in the first line of the trenches. The Germans were bombarding heavily, hoping to be able to rush them and take their trench. A shell burst and a fragment struck Reymond in his shoulder, but he held on through the day, and at night their trench was still untaken.

He sighed as I was talking to him. "Life is terrible now," he said; "either one must be in the trenches, in mud, one's clothes soaked, blue with cold, or one must lie in hospital and suffer. It is not gay in the trenches eating one's food among the dead."

The Dundee Training College Bed.

The Dundee Training College Bed is occupied by a peasant called Emile Fouret, who since the war is a soldier in the 326th Infantry. Before hostilities broke out he had never been outside his own village, which is a little place in Correze in the South of France. He regarded the train as a terrible un-understandable thing which whirled away those reckless enough to enter it, into the large dangerous world. When, however, mobilisation came, he had to dare all this, and far more—for he was taken right up to the trenches in the firing lines, where he has remained since the commencement of the war. He escaped being wounded until the beginning of this month; they were at Veuvy St. Vaste, and had been for five days in the first firing line, up to their knees in wet and mud. They were at last going back to the fifth line to rest when a bullet went through the back and out of the front of his knee. As there was no doctor to be got, his captain bound him up and dressed him.

Fouret lies now in the Queen Mary Ward at Royaumont with his left leg bandaged and tied to a splint; he can only lie on his back—he is always happy and content, and never complains. A typical peasant, he accepts what the Fates give; he does not question, but just bravely endures.

Lynedoch Bed.

The occupant of the Lynedoch Bed in the Jeanne D'Arc Ward is a certain Emile Boyer, of the 158th Infantry. He was wounded in the counter-attack after the advance in September last, and is suffering from a broken arm and a pierced hand. To look at him you would think him a boy, but, as a matter of fact, he is twenty-seven, a Reservist, and, as he proudly told me, "père de famille." He was called to the colours at the beginning of the war, but fell ill and was soon invalided home. After his recovery he rejoined his regiment, and had been but three days at the front when he was severely wounded. Boyer is a small farmer, and grows onions and truffles when he is at home. He seemed much interested when I told him that I had asked him so many questions about himself, because the givers of his bed wished to know something of the wounded soldier who was occupying it.

The Motherwell Bed.

The Motherwell Bed in the Jeanne d'Arc Ward holds one of the signal successes of the hospital from the doctor's point of view; Cyprien Bataille, of the 158th Infantry, a man whose life was for some time almost despaired of. Before the war he was a tramway employé at Lozère in the Loire country—a post he can never fill again as he has lost a leg. He was one of the victims of the fierce fighting round Souchez in the beginning of October; his wounds were not only dangerous, but they caused him intense suffering. In spite of it all he has pulled through, and is going on very well. He is quite young—only twenty-three and looks younger—and one wonders what he will find to do when he returns to his ordinary life.

Cicely Hamilton.

A member of Dr. Berry's Hospital Unit mentions members of the Scottish Women's Hospitals in an article entitled "In Flight from Serbia," in *The Times* of December 8th, but his account does not tell how many he came across, or to which Units they belonged. He mentions that some joined him, with Sir Ralph Paget and members of the Farmers and Wounded Allies Units, at Vrntze, and speaks later on of a hospital at Kralievo which had been seized by "a contingent of the Scottish Women" (perhaps from one of the other Units) who were using it as a dressing station for Serbian soldiers who crowded the entrance door, and, after being attended to, were passed to the other side of the building, where they lay down and slept.

When his party reached Rashka, "an empty room was provided for the forty Scottish sisters who had just arrived by motor," but it is not clear whether they accompanied him in his flight or continued their journey separately.

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	£	s.	d.
Forward as per list of Nov. 25th	76,277	18	2½
Further donations received to December 2nd, 1915:—			
*I.K.G. (Serbia)	5	0	0
Miss Sophie E. Tregonning (Girton and Newnham Unit)	5	5	0
Mrs. Fairrie Powell	5	0	0
*Mrs. Biggart, per Mrs. Wood, Kilmacolm	2	0	0
*Further donation from Cupar Fife W.S.S., per Miss Innes, Hon. Treas., towards 2nd six months of "Cupar Fife" Bed	12	0	0
*Perth W.S.S., per Mrs. J. W. Slater, Hon. Sec., for 2nd year of "Perth W.S.S." Bed (Royaumont)	50	0	0
Mrs. Johnston (Serbia)...	1	0	0
*Per Mrs. Mather, for "November" Bed ("Madge Neill Fraser" Hospital)	4	4	0
*Hereford W.S.S., from sale of Common Cause, Mrs. Fisher (4s.), Miss Philipden (2s. 6d.), Miss Dunscombe (10s.), Rev. Mr. Dunscombe (2s. 6d.), Mrs. Harmer (10s.), £1 9s. Extra given when selling papers, 15s. Total, £2 4s., towards "Hereford" Bed (Serbia), per Mrs. Harmer, Hon. Sec.	2	4	0
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son (£1 2s.), Miss McDonald Clarke (collected) (£5 13s.), Miss Hunter (11s. 6d.), Miss Lister (15s. 5d.), A Friend (per Miss Anderson) (10s.), Nurse Stalker (5s.)	10	7	11
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Mrs. Gregory, Barnsley... ...	0	10	0
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Dr. Macdonell, Aberdeen ...	1	0	0
Mrs. John Mowat, Murrayfield	5	0	0
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Miss M. Couts (Serbia) ...	1	0	0
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*Staff of Cottage Hospital, Castle Douglas, per Miss Scott, Matron (Serbia) ...	2	10	0
Mrs. Macleod, Edinburgh (Serbia)	5	0	0
Miss Bastin, Reading (Serbia)		2	6
Mrs. R. Blackadder, Dundee, per Dr. Agnes Savill (Royaumont)	2	0	0
Proceeds of Hand-made Tea-cloth, worked by Miss Sawers, Giffnock (Serbia) ...	10	0	0
*Nine School Children, per Mrs. Walpole, Tasmania ...	0	10	0
°Glasgow and West of Scotland Joint Com. for S.W.H., per Miss Morrison, Hon. Treas., Mrs. Speirs (concert) to name "Bearsden" Bed (Serbia) (£60). Proceeds of concert given by pupils and friends of Hutcheson Girls' Grammar School (£87). F.M.W., to name "Glasgow Suffragist" Bed (£50). Mrs. Kinghorn (whist drive) (£42 10s.) and Miss Tindal (Vegetarian-Cookery Demonstration) (£7 10s.), to name bed "In Memory of Yvonne" (Royaumont) (£50). Dr. K. R. M. Lucas (lecture in Stirling) (£31 11s. 8d.). Office staff of Messrs. P. Henderson & Co., per Mr. W. L. McKerrow (£17 15s.). *Per Miss Dalziel, Bridge of Weir, further for "Locher" Bed: Thomas Adam, Esq., per Miss Mann (£2), Miss Barr (10s.), Miss Dalgliesh (10s.), Miss Dalziel (£1), Miss Fulton (10s.), Mrs. Gilmour (10s.), Mr. and Mrs. Herbertson (£1), Misses Hunter and Ratcliff (10s.), Mr. and Mrs. Hunter (10s.), Islay Kerr, Esq. (£2), Mrs. Lever (15s.), Mrs. Arthur Muirhead (£2 2s.), Mrs. James Muirhead (£2 2s.), Mrs. Service (£1), Mrs. Stevenson (£1), Mrs. Wright (10s.), Miss Williamson (£1 1s.), Anon. (10s.), Workers in Locherfield Paint Works (£2 11s. 6d.), Mrs. Balfour (5s.), Mrs. Brannigan (2s.), Mrs. Brown (2s.), Mrs. Frank Brown (2s. 6d.), Mrs. Wm. Brown (2s. 6d.), Mrs. Cole (2s.), Mrs. Crawford (2s.), Mrs. H. Davidson (5s.), Mrs. Kerr Duff (5s.), Mrs. Essen (2s. 6d.), Mrs. Eckhout (5s.), Mrs. Findlay (1s.), Mrs. Holmes (2s. 6d.), Mrs. Howatt (2s. 6d.), Mrs. Johnson (2s.), Mrs. Kent (2s.), Mrs. McGill (2s. 6d.), Misses McGlashan (3s.), Mrs. Mathieson (4s. 6d.), Mrs. Maund (2s.), Mrs. Mellanby (2s. 6d.), Miss Middlemass (3s.), Mrs. Mingay (5s.), Miss A. M. Muirhead (2s.), Mr. Neish (5s.), Mr. Nicol (5s.), Mr. Riddell (5s.), Mr. Robertson (2s. 6d.), Mr. Rogers (1s.), Mr. Steven (5s.), Mr. Stewart (1s.), Mr. Watson (1s.), Mr. Wilson (2s. 6d.), Mr. James Rankine (2s. 6d.), James Cuthbertson, Esq. (5s.), Mrs. Scott (5s.), Mrs. Browning (2s.), Mrs. Buchanan (£1)—£27 4s. Mrs. Pettigrew (£5 for Serbia) (£10), Bearsden South U.F. Church Girls' Aux., per Miss Todd (£5), Mrs. Adair Campbell, per Mrs. Dunlop, for "Princess Louise" Bed (£5), Miss Farquhar (£2), Miss Comrie (£1), Mrs. Brown (£1), Mrs. Parker (Serbia) (£1), Rev. James Jeffrey, D.D., (£1), Miss Wallace (£1), Wm. Meek, Esq. (for "Edith Cavell" Bed (£1), Mrs. H. N. Beilby (10s.), Miss E. A. Donaldson (10s.), Miss Harper (5s.), Mrs. Bell (5s.), Miss Bunbury (2s.) ...	351	12	8
(Per Mrs. Brown, collected in Lanark and previously acknowledged, £142 5s. In addition to "Fernielea" Bed for one year, to name "Lanark" Bed one year, and "William wallace" Bed 6 months.)			
°Misses Urie (Serbia) ...		4	0
Mrs. John Mathieson	2	0	0
Collection at Quarterly Meeting, W.E.L., Capetown, per Mrs. J. F. Solly, Hon. Treas., per E. R. Muspratt, Esq.	11	8	3
Total	£76,798	12	9½

* Denotes additional donation.

The Hon. Treasurer begs once more to thank all those who have helped and are helping. Further contributions will be gratefully received to carry on the work, either by the Hon. Secrtary, Dr. Elsie Inglis, , St. Andrew Square, Edinburgh, or the Hon. Treasurer, Mrs. Laurie, Red House, Ardaowan Street, Greenock. Cheques should be crossed "Royal Bank of Scotland."

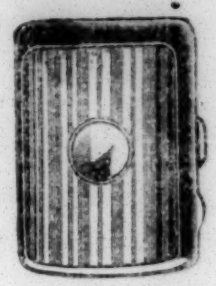
FURTHER LIST OF BEDS NAMED.

Name of Bed.	*Donor.*
"Perth W.S.S." (Royaumont) 2nd year	Perth W.S.S., per Mrs. J. W. Slater, Hon. Sec., West Manse, Scone.
"Bearsden" (Serbia)	Mrs. Spiers, per Glasgow and West of Scotland Joint Committee, per Miss Morrison, Hon. Treas., 202, Hope Street, Glasgow.
"Glasgow Suffragist" (2nd French Unit, Gevgheli)	F.M.W., per Miss Morrison, Hon. Treas., 202, Hope Street, Glasgow.
"In Memory of Yvonne" (Royaumont)	Mrs. Kinghorn and Miss Tindal, per Miss Morrison, Hon. Treas., 202, Hope Street, Glasgow.
"Locher" (Serbia)	Bridge of Weir W.S.S. and Friends, per Miss Dalziel, Norwood; Bridge of Weir, per Miss Morrison.
"Lanark" ((2nd French Unit, Gevgheli)	Mrs. Brown, collected in Lanark, per Miss Morrison, Hon. Treas., Glasgow and West of Scotland Joint Committee, 202, Hope Street, Glasgow.
"William Wallace" (Salonika)	
"Horsham" (Serbia)	Per Surrey, Sussex, and Hants Fed., per Miss O'Shea, Hon. Treas., The Cottage, Cosham, Hants.
"3rd Nurses" (Serbia)	Per Miss C. Knox Crawford, 13, Grange Terrace, Edinburgh.
"Kingston Yard, Port Glasgow" (Royaumont)	Kingston Shipbuilding Yard Employees, Port Glasgow.
"St. Denis." (Royaumont)	Past and Present Students of St. Denis School, 21, Chester Street, Edinburgh, per Mrs. Bowdas.
"Leven" (Royaumont, Margaret of Scotland Ward) 2nd 6 months	Leven W.S.S., per Mrs. Reid, Hon. Treas., Viewforth, Leven.
"Glenfield & Kennedy's Employees, Kilmarnock No. II." (Serbia)	Employees of Messrs. Glenfield & Kennedy's, Kilmarnock.
"Mrs. W. A. Davies" (Serbia, Dr. Hutchison)	Mrs. Davies, Ponsonby Vicarage, Cumberland.
"Egremont, Castle" (two beds) (one Serbia, one Royaumont)...	Per Miss M. Shanks, Egremont, Cumberland.
"Egremont, Cumberland" (Royaumont)	Per Miss M. Shanks, Egremont, Cumberland.
"Egremont, Cumberland" (Serbia) ...	Per Miss M. Shanks, Egremont, Cumberland.
"4th Paisley" (France) 2nd 6 months...	Paisley W.S.S. and Friends, per Miss Todd, Hon. Treas.
"December Bed of Memories" (Serbia)	Per Miss Lucy H. Soutar, Golspie Tower, Greenbank Crescent, Edinburgh.

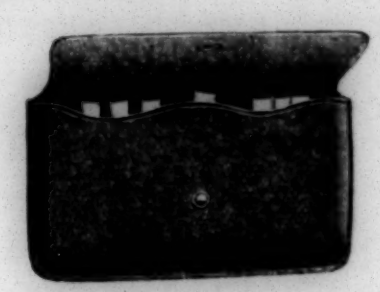
Peter Robinson's offer

a few timely suggestions in acceptable &

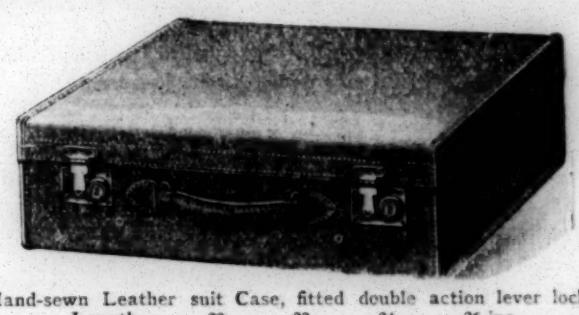
Practical Xmas Presents for the Men Folk . . . . . .



Solid Silver Cigarette Case.
Engine turned - 15/6
Plain - - 12/6



Cigarette Case in Velvet Calf, size 5½ by 3¼ ins., with patent steel frame to protect cigarettes - - - 2/11



Hand-sewn Leather suit Case, fitted double action lever locks.
Lengths: 20 22 24 26 ins.
35/6 38/6 43/6 47/6

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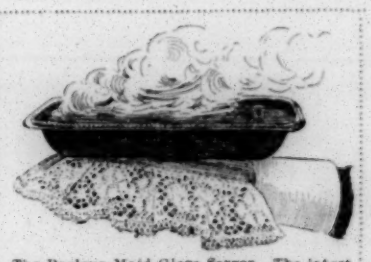

The Parlour Maid Glove Server. The latest novelty, made to fit the hand. In white linen, daintily trimmed lace, lined heat-resisting blanket cloth, enabling any maid to hold the hottest plate or entre dish without any discomfort. Price, 1/11½ each. 6 for 11.6. Post free.

Presentation Down Quilts. Huge stock in old rose, black, blue, green, mauve. Worth 20/- and 15/- each. Priced for Xmas. Double bed, 15/- each. Single bed, 12/- each. Fancy floral patterns with plain panel, extra well filled.

Manufacturer's Stock of Ruched Silk Cushions, offered as suitable for Xmas gifts, at very keen prices. In old rose, saxe, green, helio, grey, and all-black.
22in. Filled Java Down. Price .. 6/11½
24in. 9/11
22in. Filled Down 12/11
24in. 15/11
Part Postage 3d. extra.

Ready-made Eiderdown Quilt Cases. To slip over torn or soiled Quilts.
To fit 6x5ft. Quilt. Price .. each 4/11½
.. 6x4ft. 5/11½
.. 5x4ft. 6/11½
Old rose, green, blue and black. Post free.

What Some of our Societies are Doing.

Surrey, Sussex and Hants Federation.

A depôt for gifts for the Scottish Hospitals has now been opened in the Federation. The Croydon Society has very kindly consented to have the depôt there, and has further organised a working party to make the shirts, pyjamas, &c., that are urgently needed by the hospitals. Promises of gifts have been received from many societies, and several are arranging working parties; so the Federation, which has already sent over £1,000 in money to the hospitals, will soon be able to make a substantial offering in kind as well. The address of the depôt is c/o Mrs. Crosfield, Walden, Stanhope Road, Croydon.

The thoughts of all the societies seem now to be turned towards the vital question of National Economy.

The REDHILL AND REIGATE SOCIETY has lately held two most successful courses of cookery lectures on Mondays, from September 27th to November 1st.

The HASLEMERE SOCIETY, in conjunction with the Women's Local Government Association, has held a Thrift and Child Welfare Exhibition which attracted much attention. It was open for three days, November 9th, 10th, and 11th, and on the two latter days the "Pudding Lady" gave practical demonstrations. This society still runs the Information Bureau that it opened at the beginning of the war, and has made for itself such a reputation for knowledge and sound sense that the Bureau is becoming more and more widely used, and people who fought shy of it in the beginning now find it indispensable.

The PURLEY SOCIETY has organised a demonstration on Economical Cookery for November 30th and December 1st from 3 to 8 p.m., which has been very successful.

Miss Frost is now making a tour in the Federation, giving friendly talks on "Patriotic Housekeeping," "How to Spend and How to Save," &c. These talks have aroused a great deal of interest, and it is evident that women are now realising the need for national economy. At Hastings, after Miss Frost had spoken for an hour and a-half, the audience begged for more, and at all the meetings there have been many questions asked. Sometimes members of the audience have been able to make further suggestions for economy, drawn from personal experience, so Miss Frost's stock of hints, large to begin with, grows as she proceeds. She carries with her a hamper of exhibits, mostly home-made and very practical. There is the wonderful hay box cooker, a biscuit tin oven, various devices for saving fuel, and many makeshift utensils. The newspapers have given good reports, and it is clear that this lecture tour is a very useful piece of national work.

FARNHAM.—Miss Frost spent three days in the area of this society. On Monday, November 22nd, she spoke at the Bourne, on Tuesday at Hale, and on Wednesday at Wrecclesham.

GUILDFORD AND DISTRICT.—Progress has been made in the aim which members, combined with those of the Women's Co-operative Guild, set before them at the beginning of the war—*i.e.*, the establishment in Guildford of a Maternity Centre on a municipal basis. A public meeting was held on November 2nd, at which representatives of all the Women's Societies in the borough were seated on the platform, and a stirring address was given by Miss Margaret Bondfield to a large audience, who passed unanimously a resolution urging the Town Council to push forward without delay and to carry out the scheme of the Local Government Board. Since then a deputation has visited the Public Health Board, and it is hoped that the favourable reception then given to the women's proposals will materially help on the work.

Village meetings have been held at East Horsley, Blackheath, and Shamley Green in October, when addresses were given to members and friends by Miss M. Martineau, Mrs. Swinburne, and other speakers, and the work of the Scottish Women's Hospitals was brought to the notice of members.

Two lectures have been given by Mr. Reckitt, M.A., on "Italy and Germany," and Miss Frost has given two addresses on Patriotic Economy within the district. These aroused great interest, and the lecturer succeeded in awakening the attention of the audience to the pressing need for economy, and the need for Suffragists to take the lead in this matter. Our members are besides taking part in various works in Guildford. Some of them are on the committees for promoting Women's Farm Labour and the Defence of the Realm, and are working in the S.S.F. Association and the other war activities universally carried on.

At BRIGHTON, two meetings were held at the Sussex Pioneer Club for members of the Brighton and Hove W.S.S. Miss Frost not only gave some valuable hints on practical economy, but also prepared the ground for a Patriotic Housekeeping Exhibition, which is to be held next spring. Several questions were asked, and the audience were evidently sufficiently in earnest to look forward to this promised further opportunity of gaining knowledge.

At WORTHING, Miss Frost gave the first of two addresses. Her subject was "Why we Should Save," and will be followed later by "How we Should Save." The audience was much interested, and a good discussion followed the address.

The CUCKFIELD meeting almost necessitated an overflow—had such been practicable; and those who came were evidently satisfied that they had not come for nothing. The hay box demonstration created great interest, many questions were asked, and six dozen copies of the N. Food Handbook were sold. The local paper gave a report of nearly a column, and a good leading article. In the latter emphasis was given to the fact that it is "the mother whose tea goes unsweetened, whose own appetite accommodates itself to less meals, and her own bread is thinly spread with margarine."

The EAST GRINSTEAD meeting was also entirely successful, and since leaving Miss Frost has received a letter asking for notes of her lecture from one unable to attend, and whose disappointment had been increased by favourable reports.

Cardiff.

The Cardiff Suffrage Society is to be warmly congratulated on the conspicuous success of its Patriotic Housekeeping and Child Welfare Exhibition held in the Cory Hall all last week, and organised with the help of Miss Helen Knight, whose services were lent by the N.U. In spite of bad weather, the Exhibition, with an encouraging donation of £20 from the Municipal Thrift Committee, will probably have paid for itself, and it has brought the subject of saving, saving our babies, and saving our food and fuel, vividly before the citizens of Cardiff. It was opened by Mrs. Mary Davies (the famous singer), who was introduced by the Lord Mayor, a doctor, and they were supported by Sir Henry Toms, of Glasgow University, Mrs. Flora Annie Steele, and the member for Cardiff, Mr. T. Herbert Cory, who took the opportunity of announcing his adhesion to the cause of Women's Suffrage and of giving £5 towards the expenses of the Exhibition. On the opening day, two cookery demonstration lectures were given by Miss Forsdike and Miss Petty, the "Pudding Lady," and every day afterwards several lectures were given by specialists on such subjects as "Infant Welfare," "Food Values," "Health Hints," &c., and were extremely well attended. Mrs. Alys Russell, of the St. Pancras School for Mothers, had a large and interested audience for her practical talk on "Mothercraft," and the need of mothercraft teaching was unconsciously illustrated by a mother in the audience who picked the baby's dummy "comforter" up from the floor and thrust it straight back into the baby's mouth, floor germs and all. Towards the end of the week large numbers of women and girl employees came in from a cigar factory, their employer having bought £5 worth of tickets and books for them, to gain them free admission, and on Saturday a specially simple demonstration was arranged for them. They enjoyed very much the concerts given by the Loyalist Bands, and they also enjoyed looking round at the many and varied stalls. These were furnished principally with the interesting exhibits collected and lent by the Women's Imperial Health Association, but the National Food Reform Association was also represented, and the local British Women's Temperance Association had a particularly striking and vivid set of object-lessons. The dictum of Lord Roberts that 13,000 total abstaining soldiers were worth 15,000 moderate drinkers was illustrated by toy soldiers marching, the total abstainers with full ranks, the moderate drinkers falling out or lagging behind. Two rather gruesome sets of 100 little dolls showed the heavy infant mortality of the children of drinking mothers, as compared with the much smaller mortality of babies of abstaining mothers; rows and rows of black-clothed dolls representing the dead ones, while the smaller number representing the living were dressed in white. Large charts illustrated the profitable ways of spending the 7d. a day that so many people now spend on two pints of beer, and the total annual sum of £10 12s. 11d. (or 7d. a day) was represented in goods, lent by local tradespeople, men's and boys' suits and clothing, women's clothing and household goods, a splendid collection of useful articles.

There is no doubt that this Exhibition has materially helped one of the main objects now before our National Union, the desire to help those who realise the necessity for economy and have open minds to receive new ideas.

A more general knowledge of food values, more careful cooking and greater courage to modify our beef-eating traditions, will result in better nourished bodies and a larger bank balance to give to our country's need. But besides money, saved from luxuries, our country needs healthy citizens to fill the gaps made by the supreme sacrifice of so many of her sons. We must see to it that the rising generation has every possible chance of healthy development in body and mind. Not only mothers, but all patriotic men and women, lovers of their country and lovers of children should know what is being done, what can be done, and what remains to do towards this end.

For this very reason such exhibitions as this held in Cardiff—and the exhibition held a fortnight ago at the Suffrage Shop at 50, Parliament-street—are of the greatest value, viz., that they attract visitors of all sorts—both men and women—who can go back to their homes and their own circles and put into practice and spread the knowledge they have gained.

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North-Western Federation.

CARLISLE W.S.S.—The Carlisle W.S.S. have organised a very successful Patriotic Housekeeping Exhibition. They invited, and secured, the help and co-operation of the British Women's Temperance Society, the Co-operative Women's Society, the Babies' Welcome, and the Workers' Educational Association. A joint committee was formed with Mrs. Buchanan, Chairman of the Carlisle W.S.S., as organising secretary, and the success of the Exhibition was greatly due to her enthusiasm and untiring energy. The Exhibition, which lasted three days, was opened on November 25th by the Countess of Carlisle. The Mayor of the City presided, and was supported by the High Sheriff of the County. There were many interesting exhibits.

The Temperance stall showed articles of clothing and their equivalent price in alcohol. The Babies' Welcome had models of baby clothing, feeding bottles, &c., and their helpers explained their objects to all interested.

A popular exhibit was a table arranged by Mrs. Chance, President of the Carlisle W.S.S., who has taken great interest in the Exhibition. This showed various samples of food classified as Bone-forming, Body-building, Heat and Energy producing, with examples of model daily rations. Lectures were given on Food Values, Why We Must Save, Backyard Poultry Keeping, &c. Perhaps the principal attraction was the excellent cookery demonstrations by Mrs. Steel, showing the use of the hay-box in cooking and laundry work.

A literature stall was well patronised. The Exhibition altogether proved very attractive, and a credit to the organisers.

KESWICK.—Two lectures by Miss Lilian Graham, of Kendal, were given, on October 15th and November 12th, in connection with the educational courses sanctioned by the N.U.W.S.S. The first, on "Germany and England Contrasted," was an interesting survey of the differences of thought and ideals of the two nations. There was a crowded attendance, a good many questions, and the audience expressed themselves delighted with the lecture and lecturer. Several non-Suffragists were present. The second lecture on the "Effect of War on Women" was very interesting. The night was wild, but in spite of that fact a fair audience struggled through the rain. A good discussion followed.

The Study Circles were, unfortunately, not a success. Keswick has many activities just now, and regular study does not seem to attract people who have such numerous claims on their time.

Central Counties Federation.

Dr. Mary Phillips, who returned from Serbia in October, is lecturing in this Federation just now. She gave a lantern lecture on the work of the Scottish Women's Hospitals in France and Serbia at WALSALL, on Wednesday, December 1st. The meeting was arranged by the Walsall Women's Suffrage Society, and the chair was taken by Mr. Marshall, who, together with his wife, has been instrumental in raising the funds for the "Neile Fraser Memorial Hospital." The audience were much impressed with all that Dr. Phillips had to tell them, and the interesting Serbian Trophies which were shown round. The collection amounted to £4 10s.; after deducting the expenses, £3 was sent towards a Central Counties Federation Bed in Serbia.

At OLTON, on Friday, December 3rd, Dr. Mary Phillips again gave the lantern lecture at a meeting convened by the Olton Women's Suffrage Society. The chair was taken by Dr. Lunn, and amongst the very appreciative audience were nineteen wounded soldiers from the Olton Red Cross Hospital, one of whom, a Gordon Highlander, was much pleased that the Gordon plaid was the one used on the uniform of the Scottish Women's Hospitals, which uniform Dr. Phillips was wearing. A splendid collection of garments, &c., for the hospitals were on view. The collection was £4 10s., which, when expenses were deducted, would be sent towards the Central Counties Federation Bed for Serbia.

BIRMINGHAM.—A drawing-room meeting was held at 18, Beaufort-road, Edgbaston (hostess, Mrs. Walford), on Saturday, December 4th, in aid of the Scottish Women's Hospitals. Dr. Mary Phillips, who was invalided home from Serbia in October, gave a most impressive address on her personal experiences in Calais, Malta, and Serbia. After tea, Dr. Phillips showed photographs and various trophies from Serbia. Notwithstanding a pouring wet afternoon, which prevented some from attending, the collection amounted to £3 15s., which is being sent direct to Mrs. Laurie for Serbia. A very hearty vote of thanks for her very interesting lecture was passed to Dr. Mary Phillips by the Rev. A. P. Roberts.

Forthcoming Meetings.

DECEMBER 10.

Edinburgh—40, Shandwick Place—Annual Sale (in aid of Relief Work, &c.)—Opener: Lady Stormouth Darling 12.0

DECEMBER 11.

Manchester—10, Mauldeth Road West (by kind permission of Miss Leslie Smith)—Sale of Christmas dainties and presents, in aid of the Manchester and District Federation Field Hospital 3.0—6.30

Richmond—16, Denbigh Gardens (by kind permission of Mrs. Gates)—Miss J. Cooper-Willis on "The Balance of Power: Its History and Meaning"—Admission free, by ticket only, to be obtained beforehand from Miss Henderson, "Belsize," Queen's Road, Richmond 8.30

DECEMBER 13.

Anstye—Speaker: Miss Frost.
Birmingham—Adult School, Bearwood—Speaker, Mrs. Ring 8.0
Wandsworth—Y.W.C.A., 50, West Hill, Putney—Dr. Helen Hanson on "Experiences in Serbia and Russia" 4.15

DECEMBER 14.

Slinfold—Speaker, Miss Frost.

DECEMBER 15.

Birkenhead—Randle Hall—Tranmere Women's Guild—Speaker, Miss Wyse 3.0
Birmingham—Sherbourne Street Adult School—Speaker, Mrs. Ring 8.0
Brighton and Hove—The Academy, 24, Clarendon Villas, Hove—Dr. Helen Boyle on "Three Months in Serbia"—Chair: Miss F. de S. Merrifield 8.15
Chinley—Constitutional Hall, Chapel-en-le-Frith—Lantern Lecture on the Scottish Women's Hospitals—Speaker: Miss Hunter—Chair: Mrs. Preston—Tickets, 1s. and 6d. 7.30
Scarborough—6, Falconer Chambers, Stock Exchange Sale. 3.0

DECEMBER 17.

Bolton—Mayor's Dining Room, Town Hall—Public Meeting in aid of the Manchester and District Field Hospital (under N.U.W.S.S. Scottish Women's Hospitals)—Speaker, Miss Hunter on "Women's War Hospitals"—Chair, His Worship the Mayor—Collection for Bolton Fund 3.30
Wallasey and Wirral—St. Paul's Schools, Seacomb—Tipperary Club 8.0—10.0

Working Parties.

Birkenhead—Theosophical Society's Rooms, 48A, Hamilton Street—Working Party for the N.U.W.S.S. Scottish Women's Hospitals 2nd and 4th Monday in the month, 2.0
Blackheath and Greenwich Sewing Party for Scottish Women's Hospital—at 8, Shooter's Hill Road—Hostess, Mrs. Monk Every Tuesday, 2.0—6.0
Bolton—Suffrage Shop, Bradshawgate—Working Party for the N.U.W.S.S. Scottish Women's Hospitals Every Monday, 2.30, and every Thursday at 8.0
Bridlington—Sewing Party for the N.U.W.S.S. Scottish Women's Hospitals—Every Wednesday 3.0—6.0
Bristol—40, Park Street—Working Party—Every Monday, 3.0
Buxton—At Collinson's Café—Sewing Meeting for Manchester and District Field Hospital—Visitors invited Every Thursday, 2.30
Eastbourne—At the Club, 134, Terminus Road—Sewing Party for the N.U.W.S.S. Hospitals in France and Serbia Every Monday, 2.30—4.30
Guildford—"Maesmor," East Horsley—Sewing Party Every Wednesday, 5.0
Highgate—Working Party for L.S.W.S. Sale of Work—Hostess, Mrs. Garnett, 26, West Hill, Highgate Every Wednesday, 3.0—5.0
Huddersfield—Sewing Meetings will be held at the Office, 41, Spring Street Every Tuesday, 2.30
Paddington—31, Hatherley Grove, Westbourne Grove (by kind permission of Messrs. William Owen, Ltd.)—Working Party for London Units of the N.U.W.S.S. Scottish Women's Hospitals Every day, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Port Talbot—In room over Recruiting Office—Working Party for the N.U.W.S.S. Scottish Women's Hospitals Every Wednesday, 6—8.30
Scarborough—6, Falconer Chambers—Working Party Every Monday, 2.45
Shipley and Baildon—Ladies' Parlour of Saltaire Congregational Church School—Sewing Meeting on December 16th, and fortnightly 2.30
Solihull—F.W.S. Working Party for Italian Troops, at the Church House—Hostess, Mrs. Maurice Davis Every Tuesday, 7.30
South Kensington—Belgian Hostel, 1, Argyll Road—Working Party for London Units of the N.U.W.S.S. Scottish Women's Hospitals Every Tuesday and Friday, 2 to 4.30
Wakefield—"The Laurels," St. John's North—Sewing Party. Every Wednesday, 2.30—6.0 and 7.0—9.0
Warwick and Leamington—35, Warwick Street, Leamington—Working Party to make Sand Bags Every Monday and Friday, 2.30

The Rugby Society's office, at 17, Bank Street, has been given up, and all communications should in future be addressed to the Secretary, "The Limes," Rugby.

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